



Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

**UPDATE ON THE OPERATION OF THE STANDARDS AND
TRADE DEVELOPMENT FACILITY**

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT¹

1 OVERVIEW

1.1. The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) is a global partnership that supports developing countries to implement international food safety, animal and plant health standards, guidelines and recommendations to gain and maintain access to markets. More specifically, the STDF raises awareness on the importance of enhancing SPS capacity, mobilizes additional resources and strengthens collaboration between providers of SPS assistance. The STDF also provides support and funding for the development and implementation of projects that promote compliance with international SPS requirements.

1.2. The STDF was established by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Other organizations involved in SPS-related technical cooperation, donors contributing funds to the STDF and developing country experts also participate actively in the Facility's work. The Secretariats of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) also participate.

1.3. Delegates who would like to receive more information on the STDF are invited to visit the STDF website and subscribe to the STDF electronic mailing list.² The next STDF Working Group meeting will be held on 20-21 October 2016.

2 NEW STDF FILM "COCOA: A SWEET VALUE CHAIN"

2.1. The STDF has produced a new film entitled "**Cocoa: a sweet value chain**".³ The film follows the journey of the cocoa bean from a tropical plantation to one of the world's most loved products, chocolate. The film highlights how in today's global value chain, SPS capacity helps to make sure that cocoa plants are free from pests and diseases and that chocolate is safe for consumers. Moreover, the film draws attention to the various actors who play a role in keeping the cocoa value chain safe, from the small-holder farmers in West Africa to the chocolate manufacturers in Europe. The film recently premiered at the World Cocoa Conference in the Dominican Republic and is now available for screenings and training sessions.

**3 SPICING UP DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE - JOINT STDF/UNIDO INFORMATION
SESSION, 21 JUNE 2016**

3.1. The STDF in collaboration with UNIDO is organizing an information session⁴ on **21 June 2016** at WTO headquarters in Geneva. The session will focus on a joint STDF/UNIDO project in Sri Lanka entitled "Enhancing the compliance and productive capacities and competitiveness of the cinnamon value chain in Sri Lanka".⁵ Delegates are welcome to attend the session to find out how

¹ This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

² See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/>.

³ See: <http://standardsfacility.org/video-gallery>.

⁴ See: http://www.standardsfacility.org/STDF_UNIDO_Cinnamon_event.

⁵ For more information on the STDF/UNIDO project see: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/PG-343>.

SPS requirements triggered a transformational change in Sri Lanka's cinnamon sector and how registration of a Geographical Indication for Ceylon Cinnamon sparked a solid public-private partnership. Based on the Sri Lankan experience, the session will explore approaches which can leverage thematic assistance to foster integrated value chain development.

4 SEMINAR ON ELECTRONIC SPS CERTIFICATION, 28 JUNE 2016

4.1. The STDF will organize a seminar on Electronic SPS Certification on Tuesday 28 June 2016 at WTO headquarters in Geneva. The overall objective of the seminar is to share information and experiences about the use of electronic certification (e-Cert) in the SPS area, identify key challenges and opportunities for developing countries and consider possible avenues to support the transition from paper based to automated SPS cross-border trade procedures. A provisional programme for the seminar is available on the STDF website.⁶

4.2. Due to limited seating capacity, participation in the seminar is subject to prior registration. Participants will be registered on first come first served basis until maximum capacity is reached. To register and access more information on the Seminar, please visit the STDF website.⁷ A full podcast of the Seminar (including links and video recording of presentations made by speakers) will be posted on the STDF website after the seminar.

5 STDF 2015 ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED "ENHANCING SPS CAPACITY, DELIVERING RESULTS"

5.1. The STDF published online its annual report for 2015.⁸ The Report provides a succinct overview of how the STDF's global partnership delivered results in 2015 to support SPS capacity building to help developing countries gain and maintain access to markets. Results were achieved thanks to the strong support of STDF partners (FAO, OIE, World Bank, WHO and WTO), the IPPC and Codex Secretariats; 11 donors who contributed US\$4.7 million in 2015; six developing country experts, and observer organizations (including the African Union, CABI, IICA, IDB, ITC, OECD, OIRSA, UNIDO, UNCTAD), as well as a wide global network.

6 PRIORITIZING SPS INVESTMENTS FOR MARKET ACCESS

6.1. The STDF user guide "Prioritizing SPS Investments for Market Access (P-IMA): A framework to inform and improve SPS decision-making processes" was published in March 2016. To date, this framework has been used to prioritize SPS investment options in 10 developing countries (Belize, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Uganda, Vietnam and Zambia) that differ considerably in the scale and diversity of their food and agricultural exports, and the range and magnitude of SPS capacity-building needs. The experiences highlight several benefits of the P-IMA framework, for instance to facilitate public-private dialogue on SPS matters, increase political awareness about the benefits of strengthening SPS capacity, inform and improve national SPS planning and decision-making processes, support project design and leverage additional funding resources.

6.2. The STDF organized an information session on the P-IMA framework on the margins of the SPS Committee in March 2016. The objective of the information session was to briefly present the new P-IMA user Guide and share experiences from selected countries that have used this approach. Presentations made at the information session are available on the STDF website, together with the P-IMA user guide and a briefing note.⁹

7 JOINT EIF/STDF ANALYSIS ON SPS ISSUES IN DTIS STUDIES

7.1. The STDF and the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) Secretariats¹⁰ have undertaken a joint study that analyses the coverage of SPS issues in EIF Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies

⁶ See: http://www.standardsfacility.org/sites/default/files/Provision_programme_290516.pdf.

⁷ See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/STDF-eCert-Seminar>.

⁸ See: http://standardsfacility.org/sites/default/files/STDF_Annual_Report_2015_FINAL.pdf.

⁹ Idem.

¹⁰ The EIF is a trade capacity building programme for Least Developed Countries (LDCs). For more information, see: <http://www.enhancedif.org/en/about/how-does-it-work>.

(DTIS)¹¹ and identifies good practice for future studies and their implementation. The study highlights good practices and makes several practical and strategic recommendations to improve the analysis on SPS issues in the DTIS process, enhance capacity to implement SPS-related actions and to promote synergies between EIF and STDF-related processes. This includes recommendations to make better use of relevant SPS-related evaluations including food safety assessment tools, and to consider ways to engage international organizations involved in SPS capacity building (such as the FAO) in EIF processes. An EIF/STDF briefing note, highlighting the scope, findings and recommendations of this joint work is available on the STDF website.¹² The study will be made available shortly on the STDF website.

8 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

8.1. The STDF provides advice and support to applicants on issues related to SPS project development and finances project preparation grants (PPGs). PPGs, normally up to US\$50,000, are available to help applicants articulate their SPS needs and develop technically sound and sustainable project proposals. PPGs can be requested to: (i) apply SPS capacity evaluation and prioritization tools; (ii) prepare feasibility studies before project development to assess the potential impact and economic viability of proposals in terms of costs and benefits; and (iii) develop project proposals for funding by donors or the STDF.

8.2. A total of **74 PPGs** have been approved and funded by the STDF since its inception. Information on on-going and completed PPGs is available on the STDF website.¹³ The STDF Working Group may approve additional PPGs for funding at its next meeting on 20-21 October 2016.

9 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

9.1. Project grant financing up to a maximum of US\$1,000,000 is available from the STDF. Favourable consideration is given to projects that: (i) identify, develop and disseminate good practice in SPS-related technical cooperation, including the development and application of innovative and replicable approaches; (ii) apply regional approaches to address SPS constraints; and/or (iii) implement collaborative approaches across food safety, animal and plant health and trade.

9.2. Beneficiaries must contribute to the project from their own resources, either in the form of financial or in-kind contributions such as staff time, use of premises, vehicles or other existing assets.

9.3. A total of **75 projects** have been approved for STDF funding since its inception. Information on on-going and completed PPGs is available on the STDF website.¹⁴ The STDF Working Group may approve additional projects for funding at its next meeting on 20-21 October 2016, depending on the resources available in the STDF trust fund.

9.4. Annex 1 provides an overview of on-going STDF projects and PPGs. Since its inception, the STDF has devoted 64% of its project and PPG resources to LDCs and other low income countries (OLICs), as shown below in Figure 1. Hence, the STDF continues meeting its target to devote at least 40% of its project and PPG resources to LDCs and OLICs. In particular the allocation of PPG resources to LDCs and OLICs remains high (i.e. 78% of the overall budget for PPGs).

¹¹ The DTIS is a cornerstone of the EIF in LDCs to mainstream and integrate trade into national development plans. The DTIS sets the basis for all subsequent interventions and establishes priorities to increase exports from LDCs.

¹² See: http://www.standardsfacility.org/sites/default/files/STDF_Briefing_no12_EN.pdf.

¹³ See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/projectpreparationgrants>.

¹⁴ See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/projectgrants>.

Figure 1: STDF projects and PPGs (US\$)

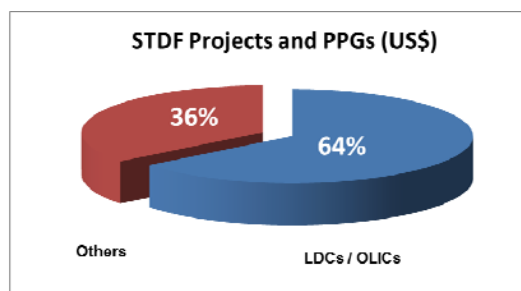
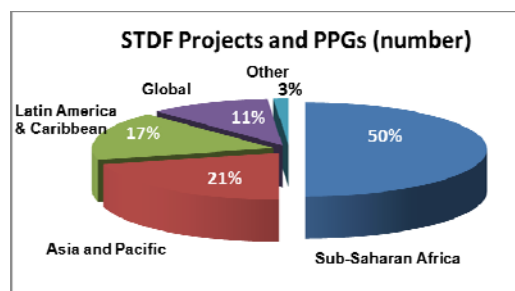


Figure 2: STDF Projects and PPGs (number)



9.5. Figure 2 above indicates that 50% of the number of STDF projects and PPGs has gone to Sub-Saharan Africa, 21% to Asia, and 17% to Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, 11% of STDF projects and PPGs can be classified as global.

9.6. Applications for STDF funding can be made at any point in the year but should be received at least 60 working days in advance of each Working Group meeting in order to be considered at that meeting. The next deadline for the submission of applications is **19 July 2016**. Further information on eligibility criteria, application forms, etc. is available on the STDF website.

Recommended steps to follow when seeking PG or PPG funding opportunities with the STDF:

1. Browse our PPG <http://www.standardsfacility.org/projectpreparationgrants> and PG <http://www.standardsfacility.org/projectgrants> webpages for examples of previous projects.
2. Carefully read our guidance note for applicants: http://standardsfacility.org/sites/default/files/STDFGuidanceNote_English_FINAL_2015.pdf
3. Consult relevant stakeholders in the country/region.
4. Send us a brief concept note of your potential project for feedback on eligibility and likelihood of funding (STDFSecretariat@wto.org).
5. Fill out an application form (<http://www.standardsfacility.org/application-forms>) and submit it electronically before the deadline.

ANNEX 1

OVERVIEW OF ONGOING STDF PROJECTS AND PROJECT PREPARATION GRANTS

PROJECTS

Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity	Start Date	End Date	STDF Contribution (US\$)
STDF/PG/242	Strategy to strengthen the SPS system in Comoros	Comoros	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	17-Sep-12	16-Sep-16	\$1,033,673
STDF/PG/303	Regional Total Diet Study for Sub-Saharan Africa	Benin, Cameroon, Nigeria, Mali	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	01-Apr-14	31-Mar-17	\$1,063,708
STDF/PG/316	Strengthening phytosanitary inspection and diagnostic services in Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	01-Sep-14	28-Feb-17	\$1,000,000
STDF/PG/321	Building trade capacity of small-scale shrimp and prawn farmers in Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	01-Apr-12	30-Jun-16	\$568,750
STDF/PG/337	ASEAN Pesticide Residue Data Generation Project	ASEAN member states	Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)	01-Dec-12	30-Nov-16	\$607,000
STDF/PG/343	Competency development scheme for the cinnamon sector in Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	01-Jul-12	30-Apr-16	\$630,000
STDF/PG/344	Establishment of a Regional Virtual Food Inspection School in Central America and Dominican Republic	Central America, Dominican Republic	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)	01-Jul-12	30-Jun-16	\$905,225
STDF/PG/345	Feed and Food Security Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay	Asociación de las Industrias de Alimentación Animal de América Latina y Caribe (FEEDLATINA)	15-Feb-14	14-Feb-17	\$991,100
STDF/PG/346	Breaking barriers, facilitating trade in COMESA member states	COMESA members	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	01-Nov-14	31-Oct-17	\$902,690
STDF/PG/354	Improving Safety and Quality of Fruits and Vegetables in Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka	International Trade Centre (ITC)	01-Mar-13	31-May-16	\$562,484
STDF/PG/359	African Pesticide Residue Data Generation Project	Benin, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia	African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)	01-May-13	30-Apr-17	\$446,150

Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity	Start Date	End Date	STDF Contribution (US\$)
STDF/PG/381	CocoaSafe: SPS capacity building and knowledge sharing for the cocoa sector in South East Asia	Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea	International Cocoa Organization (ICCO)	01-Nov-13	30-Apr-16	\$604,491
STDF/PG/401	Training of Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) Facilitators	Developing countries	International Plant Protection Convention (FAO-IPPC)	01-Apr-14	30-Sep-16	\$655,436
STDF/PG/432	Demonstrating the impact on trade and regional plant protection of streamlined information systems for pest surveillance and reporting (Asia/Pacific countries)	Asia Pacific countries	Australia Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)	TBD	TBD	\$997,595
STDF/PG/436	Strengthening regional capacity in Latin America to meet pesticides export requirements	Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Colombia; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; El Salvador; Guatemala; Honduras; Nicaragua; Panama; Peru	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)	01-Oct-13	30-Sep-16	\$346,450
STDF/PG/460	Implementation of ISPM 15	Botswana, Cameroon, Kenya, Mozambique	International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) - Erasmus University of Rotterdam	01-Feb-15	31-Jan-17	\$285,159
STDF/PG/486	Improving food safety and compliance with SPS measures to increase export revenues in the oilseeds value chain in Myanmar	Myanmar	International Trade Centre (ITC)	17-Aug-15	16-Aug-18	\$736,671
STDF/PG/489	Technical assistance on SPS and the value-chain, to improve market access for small-scale / artisanal fisheries in West Africa	Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritania, Senegal	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	01-Sep-15	31-Aug-17	\$910,714
STDF/PG/495	Accreditation of laboratory diagnostic tests for animal diseases in OIRSA member countries	Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama	Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA)	01-Mar-16	28-Feb-19	\$793,300
STDF/PG/502	Regional Strengthening for the Implementation of Phytosanitary Measures and Market Access in COSAVE member countries	Argentina; Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Brazil; Chile; Paraguay; Peru; Uruguay	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)	01-Nov-15	31-Oct-18	\$985,700

Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity	Start Date	End Date	STDF Contribution (US\$)
STDF/PG/504	Global electronic trade facilitation: Enhancing safe trade in plants and plant products through innovation (e-phyto)	Global	International Plant Protection Convention (FAO-IPPC)	TBD	TBD	\$1,000,000
STDF/PG/515	Honey Chain Traceability in Guatemala	Guatemala	Directorate for Food Safety - Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA) of Guatemala	15-Dec-15	14-Dec-17	\$45,400

PROJECT PREPARATION GRANTS (PPGs)

Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity	Start Date	End Date	STDF Contribution (US\$)
STDF/PPG/375	Development of a project for the establishment of a National SPS Strategy in Togo	Togo	Antoine Nguz	15-Jun-16	15-Dec-16	\$38,000
STDF/PPG/379	Promoting the effective participation of SADC member states in the WTO SPS Committee	SADC member states	Kevin Walker (consultant)	15-Jul-13	Upon approval	\$25,000
STDF/PPG/392	Integrating SPS in Sierra Leone: A whole chain approach to developing the national food safety management system	Sierra Leone	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	01-Nov-13	Upon approval	\$39,000
STDF/PPG/431	Aflatoxin management in chillies in Pakistan	Pakistan	Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC)	01-May-15	Upon approval	\$34,000
STDF/PPG/435	Strengthening SPS compliance of sesame production in Sudan for enhanced access to international markets	Sudan	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	01-Jun-15	Upon approval	\$50,000
STDF/PPG/447	Development of a project proposal to address SPS capacity needs focusing on the national food safety system in Tajikistan	Tajikistan	International Trade Centre (ITC)	01-Oct-15	30-Sep-16	\$40,600
STDF/PPG/453	Building capacity and facilitating enabling mechanisms for harmonizing Aquaculture Certification	ASEAN member states	Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia Pacific (NACA)	01-Jun-14	Upon approval	\$48,000
STDF/PPG/477	Improving sanitary capacity and facilitating export of livestock and livestock products in Ethiopia	Ethiopia	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development Sector, Veterinary Service Directorate	11-May-15	Upon approval	\$37,500
STDF/PPG/481	Strengthening the phytosanitary capacity of the horticulture sector in Zambia	Zambia	Ruth Frampton (consultant)	01-Nov-15	Upon approval	\$31,380
STDF/PPG/516	Cost-Benefit Analysis for Establishing a Foot and Mouth Disease Free Zone or Compartment in Tanzania	Tanzania	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$50,000
STDF/PPG/517	Capacity Building in Indian Spices	India	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$35,760

Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity	Start Date	End Date	STDF Contribution (US\$)
STDF/PPG/534	Preparation for a project proposal to develop traceability and identification of livestock in Mongolia	Mongolia	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$49,750
STDF/PPG/535	Spillover Effects of Export-Oriented SPS Technical Assistance on the Domestic Food Safety Situation	Global	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$75,000
STDF/PPG/539	Development of a project for a biosecurity classification system and registration for SPS Laboratories in Guatemala	Guatemala	TBD	TBD	TDB	\$49,812
STDF/PPG/550	Feasibility study for establishment of a fresh meat producing compartment in Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$48,000
STDF/PPG/553	Training of champion coffee and cocoa farmers in Papua New Guinea (PNG) to adopt good agriculture practices (GAP) and to ensure compliance with SPS requirements to enhance trade	Papua New Guinea	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$30,560